



Journal of Greater Mekong Studies Volume Eight: Launch and Panel Discussion

Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025

8:30am to 1:30pm

Venue: Raffles Hotel Le Royal, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Concept Paper

Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace

The Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP) is preparing to announce the launch event for Volume 8 of its flagship publication, the *Journal of Greater Mekong Studies (JGMS)*. Scheduled for June 26, 2025, at Raffles Le Royal Hotel in Phnom Penh, this event will convene scholars, policymakers, diplomats, and civil society representatives to discuss pressing developments shaping the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS). At the same time, CICP will take this opportunity to announce the (anticipated, approval at CSCAP in mid-June) of a new CSCAP Committee on the Greater Mekong Subregion led by CICP that will bring in sub-regional and extra-subregional stakeholders to examine the future institutional frameworks governing the region.

JGMS remains dedicated to providing rigorous analysis of the multifaceted challenges and opportunities faced by the nations of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. This publication consistently aims to foster regional cooperation, dialogue, and policy-informed scholarship on economic integration, political dynamics, environmental management, socio-cultural developments, and evolving security concerns. The forthcoming launch will begin with introductory remarks from the Journal's editorial team, who will briefly highlight significant thematic developments addressed in Volume 8. Editors will outline key issues and underscore the Journal's commitment to bridging scholarship and actionable policy guidance, offering stakeholders valuable insights relevant to contemporary regional dynamics.

Following these opening remarks, the event will feature a moderated panel of experts on the subregion. The panel will critically engage with recent regional developments, evaluating implications for sustainable development, stability, and regional cooperation. Specifically, the discussion will address the following thematic areas: the implications of economic connectivity initiatives on local communities; recent geopolitical shifts affecting Mekong countries; environmental sustainability amidst rapid infrastructural development; and governance and socio-political changes arising from internal and external pressures.

By convening knowledgeable voices on these issues, the launch event will not only underscore the vital importance of continuous scholarly dialogue but also enhance understanding and cooperation across stakeholders actively shaping the Greater Mekong region's future. It is expected that the insights generated during this session will significantly contribute to informed policy-making, constructive regional dialogue, and strengthened cooperation among partners and institutions operating within and beyond the Mekong basin.

CICP is committed to ensuring that the launch event exemplifies the Institute's broader goal of fostering informed discussion, evidence-based policymaking, and regional collaboration as well as collaboration with Ponlok Chomnes partners.

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Agenda

8:30-9:00am	Registration
9:00-9:30am	Opening - Welcome Princess Alexandra Norodom , Member of the Board of Directors, CICP Ms. Diya Nag , Director- Strategy and Development Program, The Asia Foundation, Ms. Stephanie Chow , First Secretary – Political, Australian Embassy in Phnom Penh Keynote Address H.E. Dr. Thun Vathana , Second Vice President of the Cambodian Senate
9:30-10:00am	The official launch of <i>Volume 8 of the Journal of Greater Mekong Studies (JGMS)</i> Moderator: Dr. Bradley Murg, Senior Advisor, CICP Group Photo Tea Break and Networking
10:00-11:30pm	Panel Discussion: <i>“The Future of Cooperation in the Greater Mekong Subregion”</i> Moderator: Dr. Bradley Murg, Senior Advisor, CICP Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Deth Sok Udom, Director, Paragon Institute of International Affairs (Paragon International University)• Mr. Aun Chengpour, Policy Research & Programme Manager at Future Forum• Ms. Sokunthea Hang, Lecturer, Department of Media and Communication, Royal University of Phnom Penh Communications Consultant and Researcher Questions and Answers
11:30-12:00 noon	Conclusion and Way Forward: Summary of Insights by Dr. Bradley Murg, Senior Advisor, CICP H.E. Mr. Huy Kanthoul Vora , Executive Director, Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP)
12:00-1:30pm	End of Program, Lunch